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	DOEE-00	EB-01	EUR-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8558
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USEC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 04080

STATE FOR AF, RP AND IO
ALSO PASS AID FOR BHR AND AFR
NSC FOR ERIC SCHWARTZ

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREF, EAID, PINS, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, RW
SUBJECT: ICRC, DHA AND UNHCR BRIEF THE HUMANITARIAN
LIAISON WORKING GROUP ON THE RWANDA CRISIS - APRIL 29

REF: (A) GENEVA 4014, (B) NAIROBI 7640

1. (C) SUMMARY. ICRC'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS,
PAUL GROSSRIEDER, ADDRESSED THE HUMANITARIAN LIAISON

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
DATE/CASE ID: 12 NOV 2008 200103014

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WORKING GROUP (HLWG) ON 4/29 REGARDING HIS RECENT TRIP TO RWANDA AND THE POLITICAL AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY. IN THAT MEETING AND IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THE PRIME MINISTER AS A RELATIVELY MODERATE FORCE IN THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT. HE URGED GOVERNMENTS TO EXERT THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE GOR, RPF AND INTERHAMWE MILITIA AND TO TRY TO PREVENT THE "BATTLE OF KIGALI." HE ALSO TOLD US THAT IT WOULD BE A "DISASTER" FOR CONTINUED ICRC PRESENCE IN RWANDA IF THE REMAINING UNAMIR TROOPS WERE TO WITHDRAW.

2. (U) UNHCR TOLD THE HLWG THAT IT WOULD REPOSITION PART OF ITS EMERGENCY TEAMS TO DEAL WITH THE SUDDEN INFLUX OF RWANDAN REFUGEES INTO TANZANIA, WHICH COULD TOTAL UP TO HALF A MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COMING DAYS. ACCORDING TO UNHCR'S FUND RAISING SERVICE, IT URGENTLY NEEDS CONTRIBUTIONS GIVEN HUGE, IMMEDIATE PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.

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3. (U) DHA URGED DONOR GOVERNMENTS AT THE HLWG TO EARMARK CONTRIBUTIONS AS LIGHTLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT AGENCIES CAN COPE WITH THE FAST-CHANGING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS IN RWANDA, BURUNDI AND SURROUNDING COUNTRIES. DHA ALSO TOLD US SEPARATELY THAT THEY MAY BE APPROACHING THE USG FOR HELP IN REPLACING THE CANADIAN HERCULES AIRCRAFT FLYING INTO KIGALI. END SUMMARY.

4. (C) PAUL GROSSRIEDER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, WAS THE FEATURED SPEAKER AT THE HLWG MEETING ON 4/29. HE CANDIDLY DESCRIBED HIS ONE-WEEK STAY IN RWANDA (HE DEPARTED KIGALI ON 4/24) AND ASKED THAT DONOR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT KEEP HIS COMMENTS CONFIDENTIAL, SINCE ICRC NEEDS TO MAINTAIN ITS NEUTRALITY IN THE CONFLICT.

5. (C) IN GROSSRIEDER'S ANALYSIS, THERE ARE TWO SUPER-IMPOSED KINDS OF VIOLENCE IN RWANDA, AND A VICIOUS CIRCLE RELATING THE TWO: ONE IS THE "SYSTEMATIC MASSACRE," MAINLY OF TUTSIS, BY EXTREMIST HUTUS (THE "INTERHAMWE" MILITIAS, MEANING "INCORRUPTIBLE"). THE OTHER IS A MORE CLASSICAL CONFLICT OF THE RPF VERSUS THE ARMY, WHICH INVOLVES FAR FEWER MASSACRES AND IS OF LOW

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TO MEDIUM INTENSITY. HE SAID THE VICIOUS CIRCLE MUST BE STOPPED: THE RPF WILL NOT BEGIN A CEASEFIRE UNTIL ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS END, AND THE INTERHAMWE WILL NOT STOP ITS ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE RPF HAS BEGUN A CEASEFIRE.

6. (C) THE AMBASSADOR, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES WHO FOLLOWED, PRAISED THE COURAGEOUS
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EFFORTS OF ICRC AND OTHER RELIEF AGENCIES TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN THIS TRAGIC SITUATION. HE POINTED OUT EFFORTS BY THE USG TO USE OUR MORAL AUTHORITY IN CALLING FOR A STOP TO THE KILLINGS, MOST RECENTLY IN OUR 4/28 PUBLIC STATEMENT. HE THEN ASKED GROSSRIEDER FOR SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT MORE COULD BE DONE, GIVEN THE ABSENCE OF A GOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK IN RWANDA TO PROVIDE A MODICUM OF SECURITY. GROSSRIEDER LATER RESPONDED THAT THE INFLUENCE OF GOVERNMENTS CAN BE STRONGER THAN THAT OF THE PRESS AND HE URGED DIRECT CONTACTS WITH THE RWANDAN PRIME MINISTER AND HEAD OF THE ARMY. BASED ON HIS MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER IN

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GITARAMA, HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER IS A VERY DEDICATED
MAN, NOT A POLITICIAN, REASONABLE, TRYING TO CALM
SPIRITS, AND DESERVING OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO KEEP
HIM FROM BEING QUICKLY AND TOTALLY ISOLATED. (IN A
SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, GROSSRIEDER
MADE THE SAME POINT AND SAID THAT SOME OF THE CABINET
MEMBERS ARE MORE RADICAL THAN THE PRIME MINISTER.)

7. (C) ON TRYING TO INFLUENCE THE INTERHAMWE,
GROSSRIEDER ADMITTED THEY ARE HARDER TO REACH BUT HE
INSISTED THERE ARE LINKS BETWEEN THEM AND THE GOR. HE
SAID THAT IN KIGALI ON 4/23 HE HAD A ONE-AND-A-HALF HOUR
DIFFICULT MEETING WITH THE CHIEF OF STAFF, AT WHICH HE
INSISTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO TAKE MEASURES TO

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STOP THE KILLINGS. HE HEARD THAT ON 4/24 THE CHIEF OF STAFF PROCEEDED TO CALL TOGETHER THE INTERHAMWE LEADERS TO GIVE THEM A HUMANITARIAN MESSAGE BASED ON THE CONVERSATION WITH GROSSRIEDER.

8. (C) AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF SUCH LINKS, GROSSRIEDER POINTED OUT THAT INTERHAMWE MILITIA APPEARED TO BE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE ARMY AT CHECKPOINTS IN THE ROAD (EVERY 200 METERS IN KIGALI, EVERY FEW KILOMETERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE). HE SAID ONE OTHER EXPLANATION,
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THOUGH AN UNLIKELY ONE, COULD BE THAT THE SOLDIERS WERE ACTUALLY MILITIA IN ARMY UNIFORMS.

9. (C) GROSSRIEDER SAID ICRC HAD DECIDED TO KEEP ITS STAFF IN RWANDA, DESPITE THEIR LIMITED ABILITY TO PERFORM HUMANITARIAN WORK, BOTH AS A SYMBOL (I.E., NOT GIVING UP ON HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES IN RWANDA) AND TO BE PRESENT FOR WHAT IT ANTICIPATES WILL BE NEW VICTIMS OF THE CLASSICAL CONFLICT. BASED ON HIS MEETINGS IN KIGALI, ICRC ANTICIPATES THERE WILL BE AN RPF-ARMY BATTLE FOR KIGALI. HE URGED THAT GOVERNMENTS TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO KEEP THAT BATTLE FROM OCCURRING.

10. (C) GROSSRIEDER'S REVIEW OF ICRC ACTIVITIES IN RWANDA WAS ALONG THE LINES REPORTED IN REFTEL A. HE SAID ICRC HAS NO PROBLEMS WHATSOEVER OPERATING IN THE RPF-CONTROLLED NORTHERN PART OF RWANDA; THE ISSUE INSTEAD WAS ONE OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN A SEMBLANCE OF BALANCE FOR ASSISTANCE TO AVOID FAVORING ONE SIDE OVER THE OTHER. HE SAID RWANDA WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT A SECURE PLACE TO WORK AND PEOPLE WERE TENSE AND EXCITED, BUT HE SAID THAT EXPATS (OTHER THAN BELGIANS) WERE NOT TARGETTED. OF ELEVEN ICRC RESIDENCES VISITED THE PREVIOUS WEEK, ONLY ONE HAD BEEN LOOTED. HE NOTED THAT A BELGIAN DELEGATE HAD BEEN AMONG THOSE LIVING IN THAT RESIDENCE.

11. (C) IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH MISSIONOFF FOLLOWING THE MEETING, GROSSRIEDER SAID THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE REMAINING UNAMIR TROOPS WAS ESSENTIAL, BOTH FOR THEIR PSYCHOLOGICAL VALUE AND FOR THEIR
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POTENTIAL ASSISTANCE IF ICRC NEEDED TO EVACUATE ITS
STAFF. HE SAID THAT WITHDRAWAL OF REMAINING UNAMIR
TROOPS WOULD BE A "DISASTER" FOR CONTINUED ICRC PRESENCE
IN RWANDA.

12. (U) GROSSRIEDER, AND LATER UNHCR'S DESK OFFICER
AKODJENOU, TOLD THE HLWG ABOUT THE 100,000 RWANDANS WHO
HAD CROSSED THE BORDER INTO TANZANIA FROM THURSDAY TO
FRIDAY (BY NOW WIDELY REPORTED. GROSSRIEDER SAID THAT
ICRC DELEGATES IN THE AREA BELIEVE THE TOTAL COULD REACH
HALF A MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COMING DAYS. AKODJENOU,
WHO ARRIVED LATE AT THE HLWG MEETING BECAUSE HE WAS IN
AN EMERGENCY MEETING CHAIRED BY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER
GERALD WALZER, SAID UNHCR WOULD REPOSITION A LARGE PART
OF ITS EMERGENCY TEAM FROM GOMA, ZAIRE TO TANZANIA.

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AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 04080

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13. (U) DEBORAH SAIDY, AN AFRICA OFFICER AT THE UN DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS/GENEVA, TOLD THE HLWG THAT SYG BOUTROS-GHALI HAD INSTRUCTED U/SYG PETER HANSEN TO USE ALL OF HIS ENERGY TO DEAL WITH THE RWANDA CRISIS. SHE DESCRIBED DHA AND UN AGENCY ACTIONS INSIDE RWANDA. THE ADVANCE HUMANITARIAN TEAM HAS BEEN ROTATING SEVEN PEOPLE IN AND OUT OF KIGALI. WFP, UNHCR AND UNICEF HAVE BEEN PRESENT IN MULINDI (RPF HEADQUARTERS IN THE NORTH) SINCE 4/26, BUT SHE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCING ASSISTANCE WITH THE MORE URGENT NEEDS IN THE SOUTH. HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR ARTURO HEIN WAS TO BE BACK IN NAIROBI TO CONFER WITH HANSEN ON FRIDAY, 4/29.

14. (U) IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION, SAIDY ALERTED US TO A LIKELY REQUEST FROM U/SYG HANSEN FOR U.S. AIRCRAFT SUPPORT TO REPLACE THE TWO CANADIAN HERCULES (WHICH MAKE ABOUT FOUR FLIGHTS PER DAY INTO KIGALI) THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO END SUCH OPERATIONS ON 4/30 (REFTEL B).

15. (U) ON FUNDING NEEDS, SAIDY URGED HLWG DONOR

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GOVERNMENTS TO EARMARK FUNDS TO THE LEAST DEGREE
POSSIBLE FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS. SHE SAID ALL UN
ORGANIZATIONS WOULD APPRECIATE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT WERE
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NOT TIED TO SPECIFIC CATEGORIES WHICH WOULD PREVENT
FLEXIBILITY IN THE FAST-MOVING SITUATION. AKODJENOU
REPORTED THAT UNHCR WOULD BE APPROACHING SOME OF ITS
DONORS TO REQUEST THAT FUNDS CONTRIBUTED IN RESPONSE TO
THE BURUNDI REFUGEE CRISIS LAST OCTOBER-NOVEMBER BE
PERMITTED TO BE USED IN THE RWANDA CRISIS. HE ALSO SAID
UNHCR WOULD ASSIST THE BURUNDI REFUGEES (NUMBERING ABOUT
80,000 THUS FAR) WHO HAVE RETURNED TO BURUNDI. HE ADDED
THAT IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHERE THE BURUNDI REFUGEES WHO
HAD BEEN IN BUTARE HAVE GONE TO.

16. (U) UNHCR'S FUND RAISING SERVICE TOLD US LATE ON
4/29 THAT THEY WERE DESPERATE FOR FUNDS DUE TO THE HUGE
PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS IN THE COMING WEEK FOR
ASSISTANCE TO THE RWANDAN REFUGEES ENTERING TANZANIA.
AS OF APRIL 26, UNHCR HAD RECEIVED ONLY USD 15.3 MILLION
OF THE USD 58.3 MILLION THAT IT REQUIRES FOR THE
BURUNDI/RWANDA REGIONAL EMERGENCY.

17. (U) MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6120
INFO WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DHAKA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
JOINT STAFF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
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AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

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DEPT FOR AF/C, IO/UNP, IO/PHO;
WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR RICE AND DESHAZER;
JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3;
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISA
PARIS FOR PERLOW

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SUBJECT: RPF OPPOSES AFRICAN PKO

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RPF REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDE DUSAIDI CONTACTED USUN TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 3 TO INFORM THAT THEY WERE TOTALLY OPPOSED TO ANY PEACEKEEPING OPERATION NOW. DUSAIDI CLAIMED THAT ALL TUTSIS ARE NOW DEAD, AND THERE IS NO ONE LEFT TO SAVE. THE RPF WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN INVESTIGATIVE TEAM GO TO RWANDA TO CONFIRM THAT ALL THE TUTSIS ARE GONE. A FORCE WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL THREE WEEKS AGO, BUT NOT NOW. AT THIS POINT, A PKO WOULD SIMPLY ALLOW THE CRIMINALS TO GET AWAY WITH THEIR CRIME. SINCE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DID NOT STOP OR PUNISH THE CRIMINALS, THE RPF WILL NOW PUNISH THEM. DUSAIDI WILL CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO SC PRESIDENT GAMBARI.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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